

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-09

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 EUR-10 RSR-01 /053 W

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R 121421 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7100

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 2643

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEOR, PFOR, AL, GR

SUBJ: GREEK- ALBANIAN RELATIONS

1. AT MARCH 9 FAREWELL DINNER IN HONOR OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO ALBANIA, GREEK MINISTER FRANTZESKAKIS EXPLAINED THAT ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL TASKS GIVEN HIM BY HIS FONMIN WILL BE TO VERIFY EXISTENCE OF GREEK MINORITY IN ALBANIA. HE RECALLED THAT BEFORE THE WAR, THERE WERE MORE THAN 250,000 GREEKS LIVING IN THE NORTHERN EPIRUS AREA WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ALBANIA BY THE 1912 COUNCIL OF AMBASSADORS. FROM HIS OWN TRAVELS TO ALBANIA IN 1961, HE COULD CONFIRM THE EXISTANCE OF GREEK COLONIES WITH THEIR OWN SCHOOLS, ETD. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT THE NUMBER OF GREEKS HAS BEEN REDUCED TO SOME 60,000. IN ANTICIPATION OF THE DAY WHEN POLITICAL SITUATION MAY MAKE REVIVAL OF GREECE' S CLAIM TO THE NORTHERN EPIRUS PRACTICAL, FRANTZESKAKIS HAS BEEN ASKED TO TRAVEL TO ALL THE VILLAGES THROUGHOUT THE AREA AND VERIFY THE EXISTANCE OF A GREEK MAJORITY OR WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM.

2. ON THE MORE GENERAL QUESTION OF THE DECISION TO END THE STATE OF WAR IN 1971 AND ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA, FRANTZESKAKIS SAID THAT THE ISSUE HAD BEEN MUCH DISPUTED. WHILE THE PREDECESSOR REGIME COULD NOT MAKE PEACE BECAUSE OF POPULAR FEELINGS OVER THE NORTHERN EPIRUS ISSUE, THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS NOT SO CONSTRAINED BY PUCLIC OPINION. IT DECIDED THAT IS INTERESTS COULD BE PROTECTED  
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MORE EFFECTIVELY BY HAVING A MISSION IN TIRANA. AVORING CONFIRM THIS  
ASSERTION  
WITH CONTACTS IF UCR. IF TRUE, WHETHER FRENTE GETS 4 8 PERCENT  
OR 52 PERCENT BECOMES RATHER ACADEMIC.

3. PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY ANNOUNCED AT 12:30 THAT  
LANUSSE WOULD PERSONALLY ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF ELECTION DURING  
COURSE OF DAY.  
LODGE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* LIMDIS  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** smithrj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 25 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by smithrj>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971117  
**Subject:** GREEK- ALBANIAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, AL, GR  
**To:** NEA  
**SECSTATE WASHDC**  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005